In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1   1.   [Currently amended] A method for operating a client to

2   establish a network connection with a server, comprising the

3   steps of:

4   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a

5   connection-oriented connection with said server;

6   said parameters including a request for said server to

7   provide a confirmation record <u>containing descriptive</u>

8   <u>information about a connection which is held for the</u>

9   <u>duration of a file transfer or dialog</u>; and

10   responsive to said request, receiving said confirmation

11   record.

1   2.   [Original] The method of claim 1, said request being

2   an implicit request.

1   3.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, said request being

2   an explicit request.

1   4.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, said confirmation

2   record including a device name assigned by said server to

3   said client connection.

1   5.   [Original]   The method of claim 4, said confirmation

2   record including a response code indicative of the cause of

3   a failed connection.

1   6.   [Original]   The method of claim 5, responsive to said

2   response code, retrying said negotiating step.

1   7.   [Original]   The method of claim 1, said client being a

2   Telnet client, and said negotiating step including

3   negotiating new environment and terminal type parameters.

1   8.   [Currently amended]   A method for operating a server in

2   a network, comprising the steps of:

3   receiving a connection request from a client;

4   inviting said client to negotiate environment
5   parameters;

6   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said
7   parameters;

8   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

9   responsive to receiving a request for a confirmation
10   record, providing to said client a confirmation record
11   containing descriptive information about a connection
12   which is held for the duration of a file transfer or
13   dialog including, for a successful connection, said
14   virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful
15   connection, a return code indicative of the cause of
16   failure of said connection.

1   9.   [Currently amended] A system, comprising:

2   a client;

3   a server;

4   a connection network for interconnecting said client
5   and server; and

6   said server selectively operable responsive to a
7   request for a confirmation record <u>containing</u>
8   <u>descriptive information about a connection which is</u>
9   <u>held for the duration of a file transfer or dialog</u> from
10   said client during negotiations for a connection
11   oriented connection for providing in said confirmation
12   record to said client, for a successful connection, a
13   virtual device name assigned by said server to said
14   client and, for an unsuccessful connection, a return
15   code indicative of a cause of failure of said
16   connection.

1   10. [Original] The system of claim 9, said server being a
2   Telnet server and said client a Telnet client.

1   11.   [Original]   The system of claim 10, said connection

2   oriented protocol being a Telnet protocol according to which

3   new environment parameters including an express or implicit

4   request for said confirmation record may be negotiated.

1   12.   [Currently amended]   A program storage device readable

2   by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions

3   executable by a machine to perform method steps for

4   operating a client to establish a network connection with a

5   server, said method steps comprising:

6   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a

7   connection-oriented connection with said server;

8   said parameters including a request for said server to

9   provide a ~~confirmation~~ status record; and

10   responsive to said request, receiving said ~~confirmation~~

11   status record.

1   13.   [Currently amended]   A program storage device readable

2   by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions

3   executable by a machine to perform method steps for

4   operating a server in a network, said method steps

5   comprising:

6   receiving a connection request from a client;

7   inviting said client to negotiate environment

8   parameters;

9   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said

10   parameters;

11   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

12   responsive to receiving a request for a ~~confirmation~~

13   status record, providing to said client a ~~confirmation~~

14   status record including, for a successful connection,

15   said virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful

16   connection, a return code indicative of the cause of

17   failure of said connection.

1   14. [Currently amended] A computer program product or

2   computer program element for operating a client to establish

3 a network connection with a server according to method steps

4 comprising:

5   negotiating environment parameters for establishing a

6   connection-oriented connection with said server;

7   said parameters including a request for said server to

8   provide a ~~confirmation~~ status record; and

9   responsive to said request, receiving said ~~confirmation~~

10   status record.

1 15. [Currently amended] A computer program product or

2 computer program element for operating a server in a network

3 according to method steps comprising:

4   receiving a connection request from a client;

5   inviting said client to negotiate environment

6   parameters;

7   responsive to client acceptance, negotiating said

8   parameters;

9   assigning a virtual device name to said client; and

10   responsive to receiving a request for a ~~confirmation~~

11   <u>status</u> record, providing to said client a ~~confirmation~~

12   <u>status</u> record including, for a successful connection,

13   said virtual device name and, for an unsuccessful

14   connection, a return code indicative of the cause of

15   failure of said connection.